



École Regent Park

September 2021 Newsletter

411 Moroz Street
Winnipeg, MB R2C 2X4
204-958-6830

Principal: Mme Lucia Grande

Vice Principal: M. Chris Coppinger

erp@retsd.mb.ca

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Principal's message:

September seems to have come and gone! Although Fall has arrived, it seems the warmer temperatures are continuing. October is a month traditionally dedicated in Canada to giving thanks and this October we have much to be thankful for. We thank the students, teachers, educational assistants, library and computer technicians, school secretaries, bus drivers, crossing guards, and all other school staff and volunteers for their hard work, dedication, and determination to provide the best learning experience possible for our youth, especially during these challenging times of the COVID-19 pandemic. We thank families for their continued support and trust in us!

We are thrilled to continue in school learning and are gearing up for our first Project Based Learning celebration during the first term. As you are aware, we scheduled our conferences for Thursday, November 25th (4 pm - 8pm) and Friday, November 26th (9am-11:30 am) with the hope of providing you with the information you would need to ensure students are on track for a successful school year. Report Cards will be available on the Parent Portal on November 29th.

Finally, we invite you all to check our school website @ www.retsd.mb.ca/schools/erp. Important announcements, information and our school calendar are available on the site, so please make it a part of your day to check in.

At ERP, we believe that open, honest, and respectful communication is the best way to ensure that your child has a positive and rewarding year. Please do not hesitate to contact your student's teacher if you have any concerns. We appreciate your support!

As we look ahead to the next 9 months of our journey together, we can anticipate many great things! May you all have a peaceful, restful, happy and reflective Thanksgiving.



Principal

Vice-Principal

Mme Lucia Grande

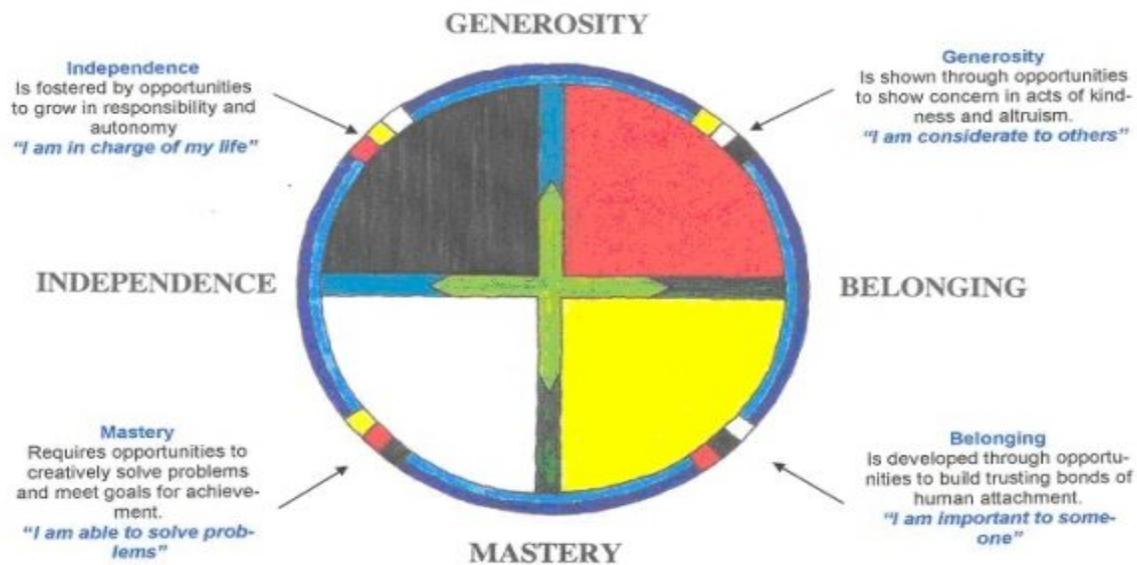
M. Chris Coppinger

What's Happening Around our School

Comité de bien-être:

At École Regent Park, we strive to foster a sense of belonging among our students. Based on the circle of courage and its four components, mastery (white), independence (black), belonging (yellow) and generosity (red), students practice these important skills. All students are placed in house groups based on these components. During the year, students are invited to show school spirit by wearing their house group colour and participate in various activities. We begin the year by creating classroom codes of conduct (code de vie) and by using mindful minutes during the day to promote well-being and self-regulation. Keep your eyes and ears open for upcoming events throughout the year such as our next spirit day, project-based learning in the classrooms, leadership opportunities and more!

The Circle of Courage



Nouvelles de la bibliothèque:

Throughout the month of September, we were thrilled to have the opportunity to invite all our classes to the library! Students were once again able to browse our large collection of books in person which is always more exciting than browsing books online. Our Grade 4 and 5 students got a tour of their new library, learning its organization and structure. All our classes had a chance to browse Ecole Regent Park's extensive and new book collection!

Speaking of new books, we had a chance to add 158 number of books to our library this month! As our student population continues to grow, so does our library. We now have approximately 7700 books in our collection. That's a lot of books!



During the month of September, we have had several books on display written by celebrated indigenous authors. We have been reading and discussing the effects of residential schools on Indigenous families in observance of Canada's National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. This upcoming month, students will be working on an inquiry project where they will continue to develop their understanding of shared Canadian and Indigenous histories. We will also talk about the new MYRCA 2022 collection (Manitoba Young Readers Choice Award) as well as the new app SORA, which can be used for reading free eBooks. The Sora app is accessible through our ÉRP website.

Looking forward to seeing you in the library!

Mme Dowhan and Mme Krylov

Comité de littéracie:

All students participated in our School Wide Write on September 27th. They responded to the prompt "Choose one of the Seven Sacred Teachings (Love, Respect, Courage, Honesty, Wisdom, Humility, Truth) and explain what it means to you." Teachers are analyzing the writing samples as a means to determine where students are in their French writing and establish what skill development should take priority this year. In the spring, students will participate in a second School Wide Write. We look forward to seeing and celebrating all students' growth and skill development.

This year, the Literacy Committee is focusing on helping students develop confidence and skills in oral communication in French. Each month, classes will have the opportunity to have fun and play games in French with another class.



Numeracy News

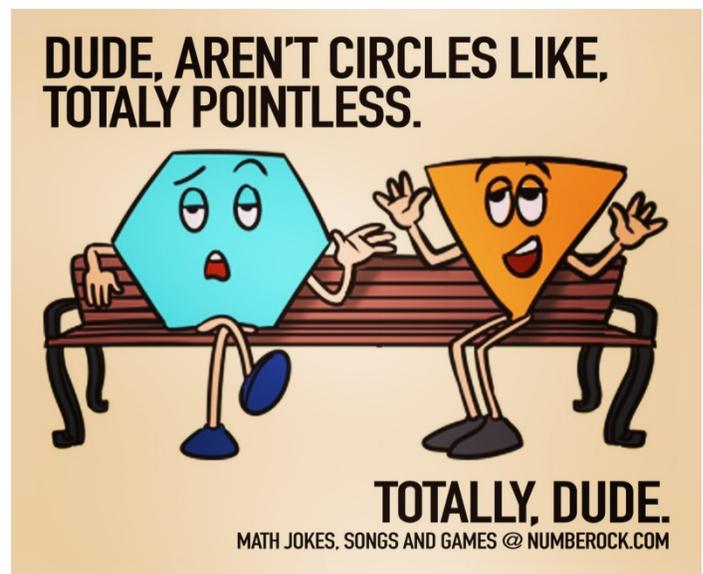


Our numeracy department has been hard at work by doing some revision of math concepts with classes and spending time assessing students in the areas of problem solving and estimation and mental math. This year our focus is to help students become more confident and independent thinkers and problem solvers while also continuing to integrate the use of technology in the classroom. How can we achieve this you may ask?

- By integrating technology with the use of ipads,
- By having math talks in class to discuss strategies and thought processes
- By planning more cross-curricular projects involving real world relevant math
- By providing some challenges called "le défi du mois".

In the past our math classes each had a bank of 5 ipads for student use however this year RETSD has provided each grade level with one class set of 26 ipads. This means that students have access to ipads for the integration of technology while reinforcing math skills.

The concept of "défi du mois" is an open-ended math task/challenge that involves mental math and estimation. These challenges will occur every 6 weeks and students will be given the chance to "solve" these tasks through discussion and teamwork. Stay tuned for our first challenge!



Counsellor's Corner

Welcome back everyone! It has been a wonderfully busy start up to our school year here at École Regent Park. My role as the school's Guidance Counsellor is to provide a comprehensive and developmental guidance and counselling program school-wide for all students. I work closely with teachers to provide both individual and classroom supports. For example, we will be working on Zones of Regulation in grades 4, 5 and 6. This program helps students identify their emotions and gives them tools or strategies to use at school. In the older grades we work on developing a profile of themselves as learners (My Blue Print) which helps each student to think about their future goals and possible career choices. I am supportive of student learning in the dimensions of personal/social, educational and career development for all students. We all work together at ÉRP, so if you need to contact me please feel comfortable to email me or to call the school; my email is plafleur@retsd.mb.ca.

Teamwork makes their dreams work!



Mme. Paulette LaFleur

Patrols – NEW to ÉRP:

The grade 4 and 5 students have completed their first month of street and bus safety patrols. The grade 4 bus patrols now each have their own vest, and are the eyes and ears for the bus driver and us here at ÉRP to help keep everyone safe.

The grade 5 street patrols have been doing a great job and have been working hard to help our students cross at 2 busy intersections – Moroz cross walk and the corner of Ravelston and Moroz. Parents can do their part by avoiding the use of Moroz St as a drop-off and pick-up area, as there are already several buses and traffic congestion can create dangerous situations for students. With the newer set of lights at Plessis and Ravelston, we have been able to hire an adult crossing guard to help keep that busy corner safe. Merci Mme.Stanger! Keep up the great work all Safety Patrols!

PC Gift card Fundraiser:

The school-wide fundraiser will be wrapping up shortly, with orders due after Thanksgiving weekend (Oct.14th). This is a win-win fundraiser, as you receive a PC Gift Card for the amount that you purchase, with no markup costs. Please consider supporting this fundraising initiative.

Last spring, the Parent Advisory Council establish a playgrounds committee who have been hard at work getting quotes, applying for grants and planning fundraisers. Please keep your eyes open for these future fundraising opportunities.

ERP Lunch Program:

This is the 1st year that ERP has a lunch program. With the addition of the grade 4s, we also established this new program. The program allows the grade 4 and 5 students to remain at school over the lunch in a safe and supervised environment. Supervisors remain with students during the entire lunch hour and transition with them from indoors to outdoors in the schoolyard. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the lunch program coordinator Coral Dance ERPlunch@gmail.com.



ERP Scorpions Apparel:

We are excited to announce that we have opened our online apparel store. Please follow the link to find an assortment of ERP Scorpion branded clothing such as shirts, hoodies, pants, masks and more. The apparel sale will run through the month of October, with orders due on November 5th. All apparel will be delivered well before Christmas and make great presents. All orders and payments are made through the website, with apparel being distributed through the school. Local business Hitek will be fulfilling the orders:

https://www.hitekpm.com/Ecole_Regent_Park_General_Store.htm



ERP Band and Music News – October 2021:

The Grade 4 and 5 students are adjusting well to life in our ERP music community. We have taken advantage of the beautiful weather to get outside and sing as much as possible, while reviewing and consolidating their musical knowledge to make sure everyone starts from a common foundation. Bucket drumming was introduced as another exciting way to practice rhythms, explore different songs and have fun making music together! Moving forward, both grades will dive deeper into music making through percussion and start to create their own rhythms for use in our classroom.

The Grade 6 band spent September re-exploring each of the starting brass instruments, namely trumpet and trombone. Students discovered the origins of each instrument, learned the names of each of the different parts, and tried buzzing some initial sounds on separate 3D-printed mouthpieces, all of which took place under our strict Covid safety protocols. Next up, we will explore the flute and clarinet in a similar way before each student gets to select their band instrument.

Grade 7 and 8 band students received the wonderful news that wind instrument playing may take place under specific guidelines this year! While we waited for the necessary instrument PPE to arrive, both groups went in a completely new direction and spent an enjoyable couple of weeks delving into electronic dance music (EDM). Names such as Daft Punk, Deadmau5, David Guetta and Avicii came up frequently as we explored the roots of this art form and discussed the pros and cons of keeping your identity hidden as a celebrity. In October, each group will begin rehearsing as wind ensembles once more – the Grade 8 band starts the week of October 4-8, while the Grade 7 band will follow close behind during the week of October 11 – 15.

All grades took part in a powerful and poignant day of recognition on September 29, the day before our first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The Grade 4 students began by learning Cree-Dene musician Sherryl Sewepagaham's song, "Music Alive", followed by discussing the significance of the drum in indigenous music using the animated series Molly of Denali. Grade 5 students created meaning from Rita Joe's poem, "I Lost My Talk" and explored the role of music in promoting healing and furthering social justice through different musical interpretations of the same poem.

All students in Grades 6 and 7 were introduced to the Secret Path project, a graphic novel and animated short film produced in tandem with Gord Downie's album of the same name. This project is an attempt to authentically share the story of Chanie "Charlie" Wemjack, who perished in his attempt to escape and find his way home from Cecilia Jeffrey Indian Residential School. Produced in conjunction with, and with the consent of Charlie's extended family, this project attempts to acknowledge the dark past of Canada's history, with the hope of starting our country on a road to reconciliation. As music educators, we recognize the critical need to continue this conversation beyond one day alone, and we commit to the process of reexamining the themes of reconciliation in multiple ways throughout our curriculum.

News From the Phys. Ed. Department

Terry Fox

On September 24th we celebrated ERP's 25th year doing the Terry Fox run! Every cohort had the opportunity to walk and/or run, and once we totaled up our distance, we covered Terry's course from St John's Newfoundland almost to the far end of New Brunswick – 1,386 kilometres. On top of that, we were able to raise a whopping \$1,686 to donate to the Terry Fox Foundation, used to help fund cancer research. Thanks to everyone who walked, ran, donated, organized, encouraged and believed in a dream.



Volleyball 

Grades 4-6 will begin lunch hour volleyball practices/games October 5. Each cohort will have one practice per school cycle and will focus on skill development and fun. Thanks to M. Kilpatrick, M. Trudeau, Mme. Pierce and Mme. Earl for coaching!

Grade 7 + 8 volleyball starts October 5th. The schedule is as follows:

Grade 7: Mondays and Thursdays 3:30 – 4:30

Grade 8: Tuesdays and Wednesdays 3:30 – 4:30

If your child has signed up for the team, please expect a letter home outlining some of the policies in place this year to keep everyone safe and well. Don't hesitate to contact coaching staff or school administration with any questions or concerns. Huge thanks to coaches Mme. Fuhro, Mme. Pierce, M. Trudeau, M. Kilpatrick and M. Duma.

Sept. 28, 2021

When Can Students Attend School?

Children who are well—with no symptoms of COVID-19—should go to school

FULLY VACCINATED STUDENTS must stay home if they...

- Are ill or showing symptoms of COVID-19
- Are waiting for results of a COVID-19 test
- Have tested positive for COVID-19
- Have been directed by Public Health to self-isolate

UNVACCINATED OR PARTIALLY VACCINATED STUDENTS must stay home if they...

- Are ill or showing symptoms of COVID-19
- Are waiting for results of a COVID-19 test
- Have tested positive for COVID-19
- Are a close contact to a positive COVID-19 case
- Have a household member who:
 - Is sick or showing symptoms of COVID-19
 - Is waiting for results of a COVID-19 test
 - Has tested positive for COVID-19
 - Is a close contact to a positive COVID-19 case
 - Have been directed by Public Health to self-isolate
 - Have a household member who is self-isolating due to domestic or international travel

Please access the COVID-19 screening tool here:
<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/screening-tool/>

Questions? Call Health Links – Info Santé:
204-788-8200 • 1-888-315-9257



Important Dates 2021

Oct. 11	Mon	Thanksgiving Day (no classes)
Oct. 22	Fri	Provincial in-service MTS Day (no classes)
Nov. 8	Mon	Picture Retake Day
Nov. 10	Wed	Remembrance Day Presentation in Class
Nov. 11	Thurs	Remembrance Day (no classes)
Nov. 12	Fri	PD day at ERP (no classes)
Nov. 22	Mon	Term 2 begins
Nov. 25	Thurs	Student Led Conferences in the evening
Nov. 26	Fri	PD Day at ERP (no classes - student led conferences - am)
Nov. 29	Mon	First term reports published on Parent Portal
Nov. 30	Tues	Hold & Secure Practice #1
Dec. 3	Fri	Winter Band Concert Celebration of Learning (TBD)
Dec. 7&9	Tues/Thurs	Grade 6 parent instrument selection evenings (TBD)
Dec. 22	Wed	Last day of school before Winter Break



COMMUNITY

Bulletin Board

**Check out our new digital
Community Bulletin Board to
learn more about events, camps,
and special offers for RETSD
students and their families.**

retsd.mb.ca/community